

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In the Application of:

ISMAEL A. HERNANDEZ, ET AL.

CASE NO.: DP6675 US NA

APPLICATION NO.: 09/934,905

GROUP ART UNIT: 3765

FILED: AUGUST 22, 2001

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: FIBERFILL PRODUCTS COMPRISING
POLYTRIMETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE
TAPLE FIBERSPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTPatent Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 13 to read as follows:

a¹ 13. (Amended.) The process of claim 1 which is carried out without an anneal step after drawing and before crimping and relaxing.

Please add the following claims:

- a² 22. (New.) The process of claim 1 wherein the relaxation is at less than 100°C.
23. (New.) The process of claim 1 wherein the relaxation is at less than 80°C.
24. (New.) The process of claim 22 wherein the relaxation is at 60°C or above and the relaxation comprises passing the filaments through an oven at a rate of 50-200 yards/minute for 6-20 minutes.
25. (New.) The process of claim 22 which is carried out without an anneal step after drawing and before crimping and relaxing.
26. (New.) The process of claim 1 wherein the drawing is carried out using two-stage drawing.
27. (New.) The process of claim 26 wherein the two stage drawing comprises (a) a first stage drawing at room temperature and (b) the remaining drawing with the fiber immersed in atmospheric steam set to 90-100°C.
28. (New.) The process of claim 27 wherein 80-90% of the total draw is done in the first stage and 10-20% of the drawing is done in the remaining drawing.
29. (New.) The process of claim 27 wherein the two stage drawing comprises (a) a first stage drawing at room temperature and (b) the remaining drawing with the fiber immersed in a heated water spray.

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